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Cy #3

25X1

1 September 1949

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Situation

1. The Central Intelligence Agency has alerted not only its own covert personnel about the Yugoslav situation but also the personnel of the Armed Forces (Military, Naval, and Air Attaches) and of the Department of State to report immediately any information, confirmed or otherwise, which might tend to prove or disprove the possibilities of Soviet military action against Yugoslavia. Among the reports received are the following:

a. From the Commander, American Forces in Germany. The normal training cycle of Russian forces is continuing with indications that troops are returning to permanent quarters from training areas. No evidence of offensive preparations in the Soviet Zone of Germany. It is believed the reports of Soviet troop movements near the Yugoslav border constitute a war of nerves to accomplish the following:

- (1) Scare Yugoslav Tito supporters and his friends in other Satellites.
- (2) Hearten Tito opponents every where.
- (3) Perhaps occupy attention of Tito forces around border to enhance chances for success of internal disturbances within Yugoslavia.

It is estimated that a formal Soviet invasion of Yugoslavia is extremely unlikely now and will remain so until there is a fundamental change in the Soviet western situation in Europe.

b. From the Commander, U. S. Forces in Austria. No logistical build-up in units at present in Austria. No shift is being made to support any aggressive action against Yugoslavia.

c. From the Military Attache, Moscow, U.S.S.R. Soviet populace not apprehensive re pronouncement of Soviet-Yugoslav hostilities. Members of the Yugoslav Embassy in Moscow were not alarmed as of 28 August. No unusual troop movements in Moscow area. The Ministry of the Armed Forces building which would be busy during the night hours if military operations were in the offing has been dark during the nights for the past weeks. No unusual military activity nor unusual port activity in Odessa. No change in railroad schedules from Moscow

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to southwest areas. No increase in defense measures in Moscow area. We are still convinced that the Kremlin does not desire to become embroiled in world conflict at this time and are inclined to believe that the Soviets at worst may attempt some guerrilla action spearheaded by Satellite forces but only when and if all other attempts to remove Tito fail.

d. From the Military Attache, Belgrade, Yugoslavia. No indications of any Soviet preparations for invasion of Yugoslavia.

e. From the Military Attache, Ankara, Turkey. No indications here of Soviet offensive against Yugoslavia. Defense positions at Prahova built by the Germans but later abandoned by the Yugoslavs have again been manned by the Yugoslavs.

f. From the Commanding Officer, Trieste. No indications Soviet troop movements near or toward the Yugoslav border. As late as 23 August, individuals were being released from the Yugoslav military services in the normal manner.

g. Jointly from the Army, Navy and Air Attaches, Bucharest, Rumania. There is no evidence here of any Soviet preparations to invade Yugoslavia.

h. From the Military Attache, Teheran, Iran. There is no indication here of any Soviet preparations for invasion of Yugoslavia.

i. Reports from covert Central Intelligence Agency agents all substantiate the above reports and state that there have been no evidences of build-up of logistical supplies or stock-piling of military equipment which would be a necessary preparation for any sizeable military action against Yugoslavia.

2. As stated above, the Central Intelligence Agency is keeping all sources fully alerted on this subject and will report immediately any changes or any other indications regarding the situation in Yugoslavia.

Signed & dispatched by hand 9/1/49

R. H. HILLIETHOWTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

D; RHH/gc
Cy #1 & #2 - ES/NSC for President
Cy #3 - Director

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